IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

John R. Liddicoat et al.

Serial No.:

10/724,854

Filing Date:

12/01/2003 APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR MANIPULATING

TISSUE

Geoup Art Unit No.:

3732

torney's Docket No.:

LIDDICOHN-123

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

PETITION FOR AUTOMATIC EXTENSION OF TIME TO RESPOND

Applicants hereby petition for a one (1) month extension of time to respond to the outstanding NOTICE TO FILE MISSING PARTS OF NONPROVISIONAL APPLICATION - FILING DATE GRANTED mailed March 2, 2004 with respect to the above-identified patent application, thereby extending the time for response from May 2, 2004 to June 2, 2004.

A check in the amount of \$55.00 is enclosed to cover the cost of the petition fee. This petition fee has been calculated on the basis of a Small Entity status.

In the event that any additional fees may be required to be paid in connection with this matter, please charge the same, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 16-0221. duplicate copy of this Petition is enclosed for the convenience of the Office.

Thank you. I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL, POSTAGE PREPAID, IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, PO BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450, ON:

June 2, 2004

(DATE OF DEPOSIT)

Respectfully submitted,

James A. Sheridan

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Tel. No. (781) 290-0060

(SIGNATURE)

June 2, 2004

(DATE OF SIGNATURE)

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